

CAREGIVER TRAINING COLLABORATIVE

Fall 2014 Bulletin

*A listing of trainings, classes, and conferences
geared towards supporting the needs of
adoptive, foster, kinship, and guardianship caregivers
in Vermont.*

November

Preventing Peer Aggression

November 11 in Brattleboro

12:30—5 pm

Strategies to Transform Peer Aggression Among Girls

Vermont Works for Women offers a new workshop that teaches educators, administrators, youth service providers, coaches, parents – all adults – how to identify, address and prevent peer aggression among girls. FOR MORE INFO: Kelly Walsh, 802.622.0400, ext 105 or kwash@vtworksforwomen.org. You must register in advance. Spaces are limited.

Understanding Conflict

November 21 10:00—11:30 am

Newport

Understanding Conflict

The more we recognize and understand the different styles of managing conflict that we and others use, the better we become at responding to it. Join us for this participatory session where the facilitator will guide you through a process of self-discovery and growth which will include identifying your own conflict style. For more information, help registering, or to request special accommodations, contact Lori.Christopher@vtfn.org, (802) 373-5382 or Janice.Sabett@vtfn.org, 1-800-800-4005 x218.

The Caregiver Training Collaborative Bulletin is a quarterly publication.
To advertise your event please use the form at the back of this bulletin.

Questions or comments? Pamela.Piper@partner.state.vt.us

December

Mindfulness Techniques

December 5, 2014
8:00 am —4:30 pm
The Inn at Essex, Essex

Relational Mindfulness and Playful Techniques for Effectively Engaging Youth in School-based and Clinical Settings.

Presented by NFI Vermont. (This will also be appropriate for caregivers).

Joe Klein and Jessica Morey from Inward Bound Mindfulness Education <http://ibme.info/> will teach you fun and effective techniques for sharing mindfulness skills with youth.

For more information contact Brandie Carlson (802) 658-0040 brandiecarlson@nafi.com

Creating Healthy Environments

December 9, 2014
6:30—8:30 pm
Childcare Resource, Williston

"A Nature Based Approach to Creating Healthy Environments for Children With a Trauma History"

Sign up through www.childcareresource.org

Preventing Peer Aggression

December 11 in St Johnsbury
12:30—5 pm

Strategies to Transform Peer Aggression Among Girls

Vermont Works for Women offers a new workshop that teaches educators, administrators, youth service providers, coaches, parents – all adults – how to identify, address and prevent peer aggression among girls. FOR MORE INFO: Kelly Walsh, 802.622.0400, ext 105 or kwash@vtworksforwomen.org. You must register in advance. Spaces are limited.

Autism

December 12, 2014
Capitol Plaza, Montpelier

"Autism Spectrum Disorders"

Vermont Higher Education Collaborative (VT-HEC) is pleased to announce that Dr. Patty Prelock will make a presentation focusing on the state of research and current news on the ASD front. Learn more at: <http://www.vthec.org>

January

Youth Mental Health First Aid

January 22 and 29 4pm - 8pm
St. Albans, Barlow St. Community Center
Youth Mental Health First Aid

This is an 8 hour public education program which introduces participants to the unique risk factors and warning signs of mental health problems in adolescents, builds understanding of the importance of early intervention, and teaches individuals how to help an adolescent in crisis or experiencing a mental health challenge. Participants must attend both four hour sessions to receive certification. Cost is \$50 for Franklin/Grand Isle residents, \$75 for out of county residents. Call Lance Metayer at (802) 582-8039 or sign up directly at http://www.stalbansrec.com/info/activities/program_details.aspx?ProgramID=29772

Save the Date!

VFAFA Annual Conference

March 20—22, 2015
28th Annual Spring Conference
Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center, South Burlington
More information: www.vfafa.org
“Creating A Common Path – Walking Side By Side”
Friday Institute: Jane Middleton-Moz
Conference Keynote: Sue Badeau
Sunday Closing: Jeanine Fitzgerald

Vermont Family Network Conference

April 8, 2015
9:00 am—5:00 pm
Hilton, Burlington
More information: www.VermontFamilyNetwork.org
“Inspire—Connect—Lead”
Keynote: Patricia Prelock, Ph.D.
Dean of the College of Nursing & Health Sciences and Professor of
Communication Sciences & Disorders at the University of Vermont

Dr. Allan Schoore All Day Special Presentation

May 20, 2015
All day special presentation
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH
Dr Allan Schoore, internationally known neuropsychologist on early brain development, will present at three events in the Upper Valley:
1. Pediatric Ground Rounds at DHMC in Lebanon, NH
2. Workshop 1 – 4:00 pm at the Wilder Center in Wilder, VT
Early Right-Brain Affect Regulation and the Relational Origins of Emotional Well-being
This workshop will focus on the neuroscience of early attachment experiences and how to support healthy attachments.
3. Lecture open to the public in the evening at DHMC

Statewide Training Resources

Child Welfare Training Partnership

Foster, Adoptive, and Kinship Training

Foundations for Kinship, Foster and Adoptive Families

In Vermont, all kin and foster families must be licensed to care for children who have entered into DCF custody. One of the requirements for licensure is the completion of ***Foundations for Kinship, Foster and Adoptive Families***. This is a two-part training curriculum designed for kin and foster families in the State of Vermont. The Child Welfare Training Partnership has developed these trainings and offers them in each of the 12 districts at least twice a year.

Currently, *Foundations for Kinship, Foster, and Adoptive Families* consists of two parts:

- 1. First Steps** is offered as two separate courses – one designed specifically for kinship families and one designed for foster families. This class can be taken as a series of teleconferences or one full day classroom session.
- 2. Classroom Sessions** consist of six sessions where kinship and foster families attend classes together in a safe, engaging environment. Sessions cover a variety of topics that include attachment, trauma, and resiliency and self-care.

Fostering to Forever...a Lifelong Journey

This class is strongly suggested for families that are providing, or hope to provide permanent homes for children through adoption or permanent guardianship. This three and one half hour class is intended to help the family prepare for this on-going commitment. Topics covered in the class include: transitioning from fostering to permanence, celebrating and claiming the newest member of your family, and an introduction to the world of adoption. Please note that this class is required for anyone who signs the 'Intent to Adopt Form' after September 1, 2014.

For more information please contact the CWTP Training Coordinator for your region:

For Barre, Hartford:

Janet Benoit Connor at jbenoitc@uvm.edu or 656-3363

For Bennington, Brattleboro, Rutland, Springfield:

Deidra Razzaque at deidra.razzaque@uvm.edu or 257-7967 ext 304

For Burlington, Middlebury, Morrisville, St. Albans:

Sharon O'Neill at sharon.oneill@uvm.edu or 656-3359

For Newport, St. Johnsbury:

Juliet Davis at juliet.davis@uvm.edu or 656-3363

For a full listing of current classes go to Voices at the Table Blog

<http://voicesatthetable.wordpress.com/>

Statewide Training Resources

Prevent Child Abuse Vermont

Prevent Child Abuse Vermont (PCAV) promotes and supports healthy relationships within families, schools and communities to eliminate child abuse. The organization is based in Montpelier, but offers comprehensive information and training throughout the state. A variety of educational trainings and workshops are offered free of charge. PCAV also provides or partners with other organizations to offer curriculum-based parent education classes as well as support groups.

Particular focus areas for trainings include but are not limited to:

Child and Youth Sexual Abuse Prevention Programs

- Care for Kids: Early Healthy Sexuality and Abuse Prevention (focus: children 3-8)
- We Care Elementary (focus: students in grades 3-6)
- Sexual Abuse Free Environment for Teens (SAFE-T) (focus: students in grades 7-8)
- Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development
- Understanding and Responding to the Sexual Behaviors of Children
- Plugged-In: Technology, the Internet, and Child Safety (focus: young children)
- TECHNICOOL: Technology Safety for Children (focus: grades 4-12)
- Overcoming Barriers to Protecting Children from Sexual Abuse
- Act 1/Commit to Kids
- The Strengthening Families Approach in Action: An Overview

Family Support Programs:

- Nurturing Parenting Programs (a variety of curriculum-based parenting classes)
- Circle of Parents Support Groups (ongoing support groups)
- Shaken Baby Syndrome/Abusive Head Trauma Prevention
- Safe Sleep Project
- Parents' Help Line
- Vermont Parents' Home Companion and Resource Directory

To learn more about current offerings in your area or to request a specific training please call PCAV at 1-800-Children (1-800-244-5373) or 1-802-229-5724.

In addition, you can check out the website which has a wealth of information: www.pcavt.org

Vermont Family Network

Vermont Family Network workshops give participants an opportunity to learn and share helpful information and connect with other families. Favorite topics for caregivers include Navigating Special Education and the IEP, and Advocating for Your Child.

VFN workshops are geared to families and suitable for professionals.

Please contact [Janice Sabett](#) or 1-800-800-4005 ext. 218 to request a workshop or to talk about how we can tailor a workshop to meet your group's needs.

Support Groups

Location	Support Group	Description	Contact for Info
Barre	Grandparents Raising Their Children's Children	Sponsored by CYFS. Meeting first and third Wednesdays of each month, 10 am—noon. First Presbyterian Church in Barre.	Evelyn Sawyer 476-1480
Barre	Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Support Group	Foster, adoptive, and kinship families from 23 central Vermont towns understand and support each other at this support group. Meets 1st Thursday of month, 6-7:30 pm at First Presbyterian Church, Seminary St, Barre	Erinn Rolland-Forkey 793-0906 centralvtfosterparen-tassoc@gmail.com
Bennington	DCF Licensed Kin/Foster Families	2 nd Friday of each month. Noon – 1 pm Brown bag lunch at the Bennington DCF Conf Room, 200 Veterans Memorial Dr. 4 th Tuesday of each month. 6 – 7:30 pm @ Second Congregational Church, Hillside Ave, Bennington. Light dinner/optional childcare available with advanced notice.	Valerie Miner 802-442-8138 Valerie.Miner@state.vt.us
Bennington	Shaftsbury Support Group	Supporting adoptive and pre-adoptive families who have adopted or hope to adopt domestically, internationally or through foster care. Meeting the third Thursday of each month at the Shaftsbury United Methodist Church in Manchester, VT	Amy Prentiss Rogers amyp@lundvt.org Jill Bouton (413) 884-5589
Brattleboro	Parents of Younger Adopted Children	For Brattleboro parents of younger adopted children (birth through adolescence) . They meet the second Monday of each month at the Brattleboro Savings and Loan Bank in Brattleboro.	Danna Bare 258-0308
Burlington	Foster, Kin and Adoptive Parent Support Group	Questions about the fostering, adoptive or kinship path you're on? Connect with people who understand how you're feeling! Pot Luck! 3rd Wednesday of every month, 6 to 8pm DCF office, 426 Industrial Ave, Suite 130, Williston	Shannon York 802-951-0021 or Cathy Frost 951-0020
Champlain Valley	Champlain Valley Support Group	A group for families who are waiting to adopt or have adopted transracially or transculturally . Guest speakers chosen by the group will be featured. Meeting dates and times TBD.	Ann Clark 985-8289
Middlebury	Addison County Support Group for Adoptive Families	Bringing together adoptive parents to share the joys and challenges of being an adoptive parent. Meets once a month at the Addison County Parent Child Center in Middlebury, VT.	Donna Provin 802-343-0565

Support Groups

Location	Support Group	Description	Contact for Info
Milton	Circle of Parents Support Group	For all families , meeting every Friday From 10 am—12 pm	Prevent Child Abuse VT
Montpelier	Grandparents Raising Their Children's Children	Sponsored by CYFS. Meeting the second Thursday of each month, 6—8:00 pm. Resurrection Baptist Church in Montpelier.	Robin 524-1700 X116
Northeast Kingdom	Kingdom Kinship Group	A kinship group meeting the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Northeast Kingdom Human Services Office in St. Johnsbury.	Carolyn Graves 748-3181 X1171
St. Albans	Licensed Foster/Kin Parent Support Group	1 st Wednesday of the month at 6 – 8 pm DCF Office, Houghton St, Suite 2, St. Albans	Sarah Sargent 802-527-7741
St. Albans	Circle of Parents Support Group	For moms in recovery , meeting every Monday from 9:30 - 11:30 am	Prevent Child Abuse VT
St. Albans	Circle of Parents Support Group	A self-help support group for adoptive and guardianship families. The group will discuss normative adoption issues as well as unique challenges families face. Kinship Support Group meets 1 st Tuesday of every month from 5:30-7:30pm. Adoption Support Group meets 3rd Tuesday of every from 5:30-7:30pm.	Nina Kempf-Miller or Robin Erickson at NFI-St Albans at 524-1700 Patricia Hendee at PCAV at (802)498-0607.
South Burlington	Circle of Parents Parent Support Group For Adoptive and Guardianship Families	A support group that offers a place to meet others and learn more about the parenting challenges that adoptive/guardianship families may face. Childcare/light meal provided. <i>RSVP required!</i> Meets the last Tuesday of every month.	Melissa Appleton Katherine Boise 864-7467
Springfield	Adoptive & Foster Parent Support Group	Meeting the second Wednesday of every month from 6:30 pm—8:30 pm. Bank Block Building #205 Main Street in Springfield	Nancy Birge 291-3907
Vermont	Parent-run groups ranging from special needs to educational supports	See website for complete listing http://www.vermontfamilynetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Support-Groups-in-Vermont-June-2014.pdf	Vermont Family Network 1-800-800-4005

Support Groups

Wilder	Upper Valley Support Group	A parent support group for pre-adoptive or foster to adoption families . Meets the first Monday of the month at the Simpson Development Building in Wilder.	Ann Wheeler 381-0680 or Sharon Goedkoop 356-9393 or 359-2553
Woodstock	Woodstock Triad Group	A group conversation for those whose lives are touched by adoption . Participants include birthparents, adult adoptees or adoptive parents. Please call for information and location.	Judith Bush 436-1488

Online Trainings and Resources

Vermont Family Network

Vermont Family Network (VFN) offers free workshops and webinars for families.

Please call us if you would like to host a workshop in your area. We are here to listen and help with any needs or concerns you may have related to you or your child's health, education, or well-being.

Call us today to speak to a Family Support Consultant

For information: Call Janice Sabett or 1-800-800-4005, x218

Foster Parent College

For information: call your Resource Coordinator

This organization offers courses via internet on a wide array of topics that are beneficial to foster, kin, and adoptive families. Topics addressed include behavioral issues, educational needs, and how to help children and youth move forward in their relationships and work toward new goals. Even if you don't have access to a computer at home, you may be able to view these courses at your local library or at a DCF office.

You can view a comprehensive list of the courses available at www.fosterparentcollege.com.

Adoption Learning Partners

Online Training Resource

www.adoptionlearningpartners.org

Offering meaningful, timely, web-based educational adoption resources for professionals, parents, adopted individuals, and the families that love them. You can access these classes for FREE by contacting your local: DCF Resource Coordinator, permanency planning counselors from LUND, or Joan.Vance@uvm.edu if you are working with probate court.

Caregiver Training Collaborative Membership

Members of the Caregiver Training Collaborative work together to ensure that Vermont kin, foster and adoptive families, and those who work with them, have access to high quality training in a variety of modalities.

Child Welfare Training Partnership (CWTP)

We develop dynamic trainings and educational opportunities for kinship, foster, and adoptive families. We collaborate with state, national, and international organizations, as well as individual leaders in fields related to child welfare, to ensure that families have the tools, resources, and skills they need to effectively care for children and youth.

Vermont Adoption Consortium www.vtadoption.org

We recognize that adoption is a lifelong process with rewards and challenges at different stages along the way. We are committed to partnering with individuals, families and communities to further the knowledge and understanding of adoption and to ensure that all people whose lives have been touched by adoption have access to quality services throughout Vermont.

Vermont Foster and Adoptive Family Association (VFafa) www.vfafa.org

Our mission is to empower, support and unify foster and adoptive families by strengthening the systems that care for Vermont's children. We envision a world where all foster and adoptive families have the resources they need to restore faith, hope, and joy to the children they nurture.

Vermont Kin As Parents (VKAP) www.vermontkinasparents.org

Vermont Kin As Parents is committed to support relatives who are raising children and to educate the public and community partners about the joys and difficulties these families experience.

Laraway Youth and Family Services www.laraway.org

Laraway believes that all children deserve the chance to learn, make friends, experience fun and build positive relationships with caring adults. Programs include: Laraway School – independent Special Education School K- 12, Substitute Care - Laraway's therapeutic foster care program, Footebrooke - licensed staffed foster home, Backpack Program – supports in public school setting, Clinical Services, and Laraway Farm.

HowardCenter www.howardcenter.org

Our mission is to improve the well-being of children, adults, families, and communities. Howard Center provides an extensive array of services including supports for adult mental health, children & families, substance abuse, and developmental services.

VT Dept. of Children and Families /Family Services Division (FSD) www.dcf.vermont.gov/fsd

The Family Services Division is Vermont's child welfare and youth justice agency. We are responsible for making sure children and youth are safe, their basic needs are met, they abide by the law, and families are supported to achieve these goals.

This bulletin is for your convenience.
CTC does not endorse any particular group or organization.

Submission Form for CTC Bulletin

Do you have an upcoming training, support group, online resource, or conference you would like to post in this bulletin?

Please fill out the form below and return to Pamela.piper@partner.state.vt.us

DEADLINE: JANUARY 14, 2015

SUBMISSION FORM

Type of announcement: _____

(Is it a one-time class - Conference - ongoing class - support group - save the date - online training)

Organization/Sponsor _____

General Topic: _____

Title _____

Date _____ Time _____

Location _____

Brief Description

Contact information for event: _____

Submitted by: _____ contact: _____